



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE



CONFIRMAND BLESSING

SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2018

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome

Please turn off cell phones in the sanctuary.

Children in Worship

Infants and children bring life to our worship and are always welcome. Worship Activity Bags for children are located at the back of the church: teal bags for 2-5 years, navy blue for 6-10 years. We offer childcare in our professionally staffed nursery in our downstairs nursery for children ages infancy through 6 years old.

Sunday School

Join us for weekly Sunday School in the Christian Education wing located on the lower level.

Sunday Brunch

Menu: Pancakes, bacon, fruit, and toaster items.

Interested in Membership?

Contact Pastor Craig, call (309)-762-0787 or email craig@fccmoline.org.

Wi-Fi Password

Welcome!

Resources

Ushers can provide large print bulletins and hearing amplifiers.

Open and Affirming

We are an ONA church, please visit fccmoline.org/ona for more information.

Getting connected

Please fill our pew pads to offer us a record of your attendance.

Cover Art

Today from the life of the church

I asked the Great Creator what the universe was made for.

“Ask for something more in keeping with that little mind of yours,” he replied.

“What was man made for?”

“Little man, you still want to know too much. Cut down the extent of your request and improve the intent.”

Then I told the Creator I wanted to know all about the peanut. He replied that my mind was too small to know all about the peanut, but He said He would give me a handful of peanuts. And God said, “Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of the earth...to you it shall be for meat...I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.”

I carried the peanuts into my laboratory and the Creator told me to take them apart and resolve them into their elements. With such knowledge as I had of chemistry and physics I set to work to take them apart. I separated the water, the fats, the oils, the gums, the resins, sugars, starches, pectoses, pentosans amino acids. There! I had the parts of the peanuts all spread out before me. I looked at God and He looked at me. “Now, you know what the peanut is.”

*George Washington Carver:
An American Biography
(1860-1943)*

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

'The Prayer' - David Foster

GREETING AND WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Our world offers many wide avenues
and beautiful boulevards to walk;**

Our God invites us to walk the road of service and sacrifice.

**Our society suggests we put down our roots
in the shallow soil of pleasure and greed.**

Our God seeks to plant us on the banks of hope,
watered by the rivers of joy and grace.

**Our culture promotes achievement, success,
climbing to the top, ringing the bell.**

Our God tells us if we want to be first
we need to go to the end of the line.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **Lord, be with us this day, helping us to put our priorities in order; so that we may faithfully serve you by serving your people. Heal our spirits. Enable us to follow your ways all the days of our lives. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

#461 *God is Here!*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Let us pray. **We confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***SONG OF PRAISE**

Gloria

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: 'Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: 'Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'. The second staff includes a triplet of eighth notes for 'al - le - lu - ia' and a group of four eighth notes for the final 'al - le - lu - ia'.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

BLESSING OF THE CONFIRMANDS

<i>Allie Maranda</i>	<i>Pam Wendt</i>
<i>Andrew Michl</i>	<i>Zach Newcomb</i>
<i>Noah Suman</i>	<i>Ian Theiss</i>
<i>Nolan Wandrey</i>	<i>Phil Koenig</i>
<i>Olivia Glenn</i>	<i>Kristi Bailey</i>
<i>Kenzie Smith</i>	<i>Sunny Moorhusen</i>
<i>Kelsy McCormick</i>	<i>Susie Llewellyn</i>

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

JEREMIAH 11:18-20

It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 54

Save me, O God, by your name;

in your might, defend my cause.

Hear my prayer, O God;

give ear to the words of my mouth.

For strangers have risen against me, and the ruthless have sought my life,

those who have no regard for God.

Behold, God is my helper;

it is the Lord who sustains my life.

Render evil to those who spy on me;

in your faithfulness, destroy them.

I will offer you a freewill sacrifice

and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

For you have rescued me from every trouble,

and my eye looks down on my enemies.

SCRIPTURE

JAMES 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Be Thou My Vision - Alice Parker

***GOSPEL**

MARK 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

***HYMN**

#438 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

Responding to the Good News

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Partita on *La Folia* - Bernardo Pasquini

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God From whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

#399 *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

'I've Got Peace Like a River' arr. Mark Hayes



*To the glory of God and in loving memory of
Henry A. Getz, William A. Getz, John I. Getz, Pamela Getz Veerhusen,
Cicely Getz Kane, Barbara Getz Mannon, Deborah Getz,
and Karen Hartman Getz*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher

Jim Moorhusen

Ushers

Wandrey Family

Usher Guides

Jack Reimers

Kathy Reimers

North Door Greeters:

Mary Curry

Charles Curry

Lector/Liturgist

Wandrey Family

Sound Tech

Jeff Newcomb

Bus Driver

Mike Bealer

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

Senior Pastor

craig@fccmoline.org

Rev. Michael Swartz

Associate Pastor

michael@fccmoline.org

Maureen Holmes

Chancel Choir Director

maureen@fccmoline.org

Mason Moss

Interim Organist/Pianist

mason@fccmoline.org

Gail Glockhoff-Long

Campanella Ringers Director

gail@fccmoline.org

Becca Peterson

Director of Family Ministry

becca@fccmoline.org

Harleigh Jones

Nursery Coordinator

nursery@fccmoline.org

Jennifer Dailing

Office Assistant

jennifer@fccmoline.org

Amber Moore - Director of

Marketing & Communications

amber@fccmoline.org

Sara Otta

Finance Manager

sara@fccmoline.org

Wes Llewellyn

Fellowship Coordinator

wes@fccmoline.org

Amanda Peterson

Red Wagon Preschool Director

Custodians

Mike DeTroy

Ron Mahar



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gathered to Share God's Love